

REPORT

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The Technical Documentation Center, Prague I, Clementinum, (Technicke dokumentacni stredisko - TDS) is a department of the Research Institute of the Czechoslovak Metallurgical and Machine Industries, through which it comes under the jurisdiction of the Metallurgical and Machine Industries Central Directorate, Jungmanova St., Prague XI. The Center was established in 1946 to serve two purposes:

- a. To maintain and index a library of technical literature obtained from all possible sources.
- b. To obtain a variety of information on production in foreign countries for the use of the nationalized Czech industries.

Chief of the Center:
Metallurgy and heavy industry:
Aircraft and vehicles:
Machine tools:
Engineering:
High-voltage electronics:
Low-voltage electronics:
Surface construction:
Plastics:
Chemical technology:
Organic chemistry and atomistics (sic):
Plant prospectuses:

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3. Each of the above experts has the task of assembling foreign technical literature in his specialty and filing it according to a decimal system that makes it easily accessible. Whenever a technician from some Czech industry requires information concerning a foreign industrial product or process, he refers his problem to the Technical Documentation Center. If the expert at the Center discovers that the required information is not available in the files, a request is sent to the pertinent Czech diplomatic missions abroad to obtain whatever information may be accessible.

4. Information Requests Received during 1949

a. By the metallurgy and heavy industry section:

- 1) The mass production of body castings of aerial bombs, in particular the thermal treatment of the body surface. 50X1-HUM
- 2) Special forming materials for extremely delicate moulding operations, as applied, for instance, to the manufacture of jewelry.
- 3) The process for the production of powdered iron for the cores of high-voltage wires. The powder was to be produced by pouring a special metal into a liquid of a certain composition, whereby fine pellets would be formed and then extracted and moulded with the aid of a binding substance into cores of the required shape.

b. By the aircraft and vehicles section:

Instruments and installations facilitating night landings. Information requested by the Tesla Works.

c. By the machine tools and engineering sections:

- 1) Great interest has been evinced from several quarters in the working of metals with the aid of electric sparks. ✓
- 2) The non-rotating working of the interior surfaces of rotating objects. ✓
- 3) The Czech bottle manufacturing industry requested detailed information concerning the mass production of bottles. A-1
- 4) Several inquiries concerning hydro-magnetic clutches (indicating that plans may be afoot to place such a device into production). Difficulties arose from calculations involving the hydraulic aspects of the clutch. ✓

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d. By the high-voltage electronics section:

- 1) The Ceskomoravska Kolben-Danek works requested details concerning the winding of coils for slowly rotating alternators at voltages over 13,000 volts.
- 2) Installations for the ionization of the space between the electrodes of welding tools with the aid of high frequency conditions in order to reduce the ignition tension of the arc. Requested by Kolben-Danek.
- 3) Switches of modern construction now in use in the United States. The research department of the Moravsko-Slezske elektrotechnicke zavody is preparing material for the production of these miniature switches (sic).
- 4) Power switches for high and very high voltages. Electric arcs are being extinguished with gases produced in a special ceramic or plastic tube and ejected at the time that the electrodes are being pulled apart. Research work on these switches is being conducted by the

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high-voltage section of the Research Institute of the Metallurgical and Machine Industries, headed by Engineer Gross. Prototypes have already been tested, and the Kolben-Danek works will shortly begin production.

- 5) Planning and construction of underground power plants. Both hydro-electric and thermal installations are being planned. Information has been requested by the Ministry of Defense.
- 6) Protective coverings for underground cables. Questions have been put to the Center concerning the production of thermoplast coatings by Signaltechna of Prague and Kablo Bratislava.

e. [By the low-voltage electronics section:]

- 1) The disposition of electromagnets in a cyclotron or other machines for atomic research, with which a high saturation of the air space between the magnets may be attained. (It is believed that the Czech Military Technical Institute achieved 8,000 gauss.) Information on this subject was requested by the Military Technical Institute, and all communications were addressed personally to Havlicek, chief of the low-voltage electronics section. Messages were hand-delivered by military couriers.
- 2) All possible data on the proximity fuse. The Military Institute is conducting widespread experiments in this field and is said to have reached a very advanced state.
- 3) (Data for the construction of an instrument which would solve high degree differential equations through the electrolysis of a certain solution (sic). Requested by the Moravsko-Slezske works.)

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